

1 AN ACT relating to hospital rate improvement programs and making an  
2 appropriation therefor.

3 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO  
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *As used in Sections 1 to 4 of this Act:*

- 7 *(1) "Assessment" means the hospital assessment authorized by Section 2 of this Act;*
- 8 *(2) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department for Medicaid*  
9 *Services;*
- 10 *(3) "Department" means the Department for Medicaid Services;*
- 11 *(4) "Excess disproportionate share taxes" means any excess provider tax revenues*  
12 *collected under KRS 142.303 that are not needed to fund the state share of*  
13 *hospital disproportionate share payments under KRS 205.640 due to federal*  
14 *disproportionate share allotments being reduced and limited to the portion of*  
15 *provider tax revenues collected under KRS 142.303 necessary to fund the state*  
16 *share of the difference between the unreduced disproportionate share allotment*  
17 *and the reduced disproportionate share allotment;*
- 18 *(5) "Intergovernmental transfer" means any transfer of money by or on behalf of a*  
19 *public agency for purposes of qualifying funds for federal financial participation*  
20 *in accordance with 42 C.F.R. sec. 433.51;*
- 21 *(6) "Long-term acute hospital" means an in-state hospital that is certified as a long-*  
22 *term care hospital under 42 U.S.C. sec. 1395ww(d)(1)(B)(iv);*
- 23 *(7) "Managed care" means the provision of Medicaid benefits through managed*  
24 *care organizations under contract with the department pursuant to 42 C.F.R. sec.*  
25 *438;*
- 26 *(8) "Managed care gap" means the difference between the maximum actuarially*  
27 *sound amount that can be included in managed care rates for hospital inpatient*

1 services provided by qualifying hospitals and out-of-state hospitals and the  
2 amount of total payments for hospital inpatient services provided by qualifying  
3 hospitals and out-of-state hospitals paid by managed care organizations. For  
4 purposes of the managed care gap, total payments shall include only those  
5 supplemental payments made to a qualifying hospital and shall exclude payments  
6 established under Sections 1 to 4 of this Act;

7 (9) "Managed care organization" means an entity contracted with the department to  
8 provide Medicaid benefits pursuant to 42 C.F.R. sec. 438;

9 (10) "Non-state government-owned hospital" means the same as non-state  
10 government-owned or operated facilities in 42 C.F.R. sec. 447.272 and represents  
11 one (1) group of hospitals for purposes of estimating the upper payment limit;

12 (11) "University hospital" means a state university teaching hospital, owned or  
13 operated by either the University of Kentucky College of Medicine or the  
14 University of Louisville School of Medicine, including a hospital owned or  
15 operated by a related organization pursuant to 42 C.F.R. sec. 413.17;

16 (12) "Pediatric teaching hospital" means the same as in KRS 205.565;

17 (13) "Private hospitals" means the same as privately-owned and operated facilities in  
18 42 C.F.R. sec. 447.272 and represents one (1) group of hospitals for purposes of  
19 estimating the upper payment limit;

20 (14) "Program year" means the state fiscal year during which an assessment is  
21 assessed and rate improvement payments are made;

22 (15) "Psychiatric access hospital" means an in-state psychiatric hospital licensed  
23 under KRS Chapter 216B that:

24 (a) Is not located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area;

25 (b) Provides at least sixty-five thousand (65,000) days of inpatient care as  
26 reflected in the department's hospital rate data for state fiscal year 1998-  
27 1999;

1 (c) Provides at least twenty percent (20%) of inpatient care to Medicaid eligible  
2 recipients as reflected in the department's hospital rate data for state fiscal  
3 year 1998-1999; and

4 (d) Provides at least five thousand (5,000) days of inpatient psychiatric care to  
5 Medicaid recipients in a state fiscal year;

6 (16) "Qualifying hospital" means a Medicaid-participating, in-state hospital licensed  
7 under KRS Chapter 216B including a long-term acute hospital, but excluding a  
8 university hospital and a state mental hospital defined in KRS 205.639;

9 (17) "Qualifying hospital disproportionate share percentage" means a percentage  
10 equal to the amount of hospital provider taxes paid pursuant to KRS 142.303 by  
11 qualifying hospitals in state fiscal year 2016-2017 divided by the amount of  
12 hospital provider taxes paid pursuant to KRS 142.303 by all hospitals in state  
13 fiscal year 2016-2017;

14 (18) "University hospital disproportionate share percentage" means a percentage  
15 equal to the amount of hospital provider taxes paid pursuant to KRS 142.303 by  
16 university hospitals and state mental hospitals, as defined in KRS 205.639, in  
17 state fiscal year 2016-2017 divided by the amount of hospital provider taxes paid  
18 pursuant to KRS 142.303 by all hospitals in fiscal year 2016-2017;

19 (19) "Upper payment limit" or "UPL" means the methodology permitted by federal  
20 regulation to achieve the maximum allowable amount on aggregate hospital  
21 Medicaid payments to non-state government-owned hospitals and private  
22 hospitals under 42 C.F.R. sec. 447.272. A separate UPL shall be estimated for  
23 non-state government-owned hospitals and private hospitals; and

24 (20) "UPL gap" means the difference between the UPL and amount of total fee-for-  
25 service payments paid by the department for hospital inpatient services provided  
26 by non-state government-owned hospitals and private hospitals to Medicaid  
27 beneficiaries and excluding payments established under Sections 1 to 4 of this

1 Act. A separate UPL gap shall be estimated for the non-state government-owned  
2 hospitals and private hospitals.

3 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) To the extent allowable under federal law, the department shall develop the  
6 following programs to increase Medicaid reimbursement for inpatient hospital  
7 services provided by a qualifying hospital to Medicaid recipients:

8 (a) A program to increase inpatient reimbursement to qualifying hospitals  
9 within the Medicaid fee-for-service program in an aggregate amount  
10 equivalent to the UPL gap; and

11 (b) A program to increase inpatient reimbursement to qualifying hospitals  
12 within the Medicaid managed care program in an aggregate amount  
13 equivalent to the managed care gap.

14 (2) On an annual basis prior to the start of each program year, the department shall  
15 determine:

16 (a) The maximum allowable UPL for inpatient services provided in the  
17 Kentucky Medicaid fee-for-service program;

18 (b) The fee-for-service UPL gap for applicable ownership groups;

19 (c) A per discharge uniform add-on amount to be applied to Medicaid fee-for-  
20 service discharges at qualifying hospitals for that program year, determined  
21 by dividing the UPL gap for the applicable ownership group by total fee-for-  
22 service hospital inpatient discharges at qualifying hospitals in the data used  
23 to calculate the UPL gap. Claims for discharges that already receive an  
24 enhanced rate at qualifying hospitals that also are classified as a pediatric  
25 teaching hospital or as a psychiatric access hospital shall be excluded from  
26 the calculation of the per discharge uniform add-on, unless the department  
27 is required to include these claims to obtain federal approval;

- 1 (d) The maximum managed care gap for inpatient services; and  
2 (e) A per discharge uniform add-on amount to be applied to Medicaid managed  
3 care discharges at qualifying hospitals for that program year in an amount  
4 that is calculated by dividing the managed care gap by total managed care  
5 in-state qualifying hospital inpatient discharges in the data used to calculate  
6 the managed care gap. Claims for discharges that already receive an  
7 enhanced rate at qualifying hospitals that also are classified as a pediatric  
8 teaching hospital or as a psychiatric access hospital shall be excluded from  
9 the calculation of the per discharge uniform add-on, unless the department  
10 is required to include these claims to obtain federal approval.

11 At least thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of each program year, the  
12 department shall provide each qualifying hospital the opportunity to verify the  
13 base data to be utilized in both the fee-for-service and managed care gap  
14 calculations, with data sources and methodologies identified.

15 (3) On a quarterly basis in the program year, the department shall:

16 (a) Calculate a fee-for-service quarterly supplemental payment for each  
17 qualifying hospital using fee-for-service claims for inpatient discharges  
18 paid in the quarter to the qualifying hospital multiplied by the uniform add-  
19 on amount determined in subsection (2)(c) of this section;

20 (b) Calculate a managed care quarterly supplemental payment for each  
21 qualifying hospital to be paid by each managed care organization using  
22 managed care encounter claims for inpatient discharges received in the  
23 quarter multiplied by the uniform add-on amount determined in subsection  
24 (2)(e) of this section;

25 (c) Make the quarterly supplemental payment calculated under paragraph (a)  
26 of this subsection;

27 (d) Provide each managed care organization with a listing of the supplemental

1 payments to be paid by each managed care organization to each qualifying  
2 hospital;

3 (e) Provide each managed care organization with a supplemental capitation  
4 payment to cover the managed care organization's quarterly supplemental  
5 payments to be paid to qualifying hospitals in the quarter;

6 (f) Determine the amount of state funds necessary to obtain federal matching  
7 funds that, in the aggregate, equal the total quarterly supplemental  
8 payments to be paid to all qualifying hospitals in both the fee-for-service  
9 and the Medicaid managed care programs;

10 (g) Determine a per discharge hospital assessment for the quarter for each  
11 qualifying hospital, which shall be calculated by first applying towards the  
12 state share calculated under paragraph (f) of this subsection the qualifying  
13 hospital disproportionate share percentage of the excess disproportionate  
14 share taxes and then dividing the remaining state share by the total  
15 discharges reported by all in-state qualifying hospitals on the Medicare cost  
16 report filed by those qualifying hospitals in the calendar year two (2) years  
17 prior to the program year;

18 (h) Determine each qualifying hospital's quarterly assessment by multiplying  
19 the assessment established in paragraph (g) of this subsection by the  
20 hospital's total discharges from the qualifying hospital's Medicare cost  
21 report filed in the calendar year two (2) years prior to the program year;  
22 and

23 (i) Provide each qualifying hospital with a notice sent on the same day as the  
24 distribution to managed care organizations of the supplemental capitation  
25 payments pursuant to paragraph (e) of this subsection, of the qualifying  
26 hospital's quarterly assessment, that shall state the total amount due from  
27 the assessment, the date payment is due, the total number of paid claims for

- 1           inpatient discharges used to calculate the qualifying hospital's quarterly  
2           supplemental payments, and the amount of quarterly supplemental  
3           payments due to be received by the qualifying hospital from the department  
4           and each Medicaid managed care organization.
- 5   (4) In calculating the quarterly supplemental payments under subsection (3)(a) and  
6           (b) of this section for qualifying hospitals that are also classified as a pediatric  
7           teaching hospital or as a psychiatric access hospital, no add-on shall be applied to  
8           the paid claims for the services for which that hospital also receives supplemental  
9           payments pursuant to state plan methodologies and managed care contracts in  
10           effect on January 1, 2019.
- 11   (5) Each qualifying hospital shall receive four (4) quarterly supplemental payments  
12           in the program year, as determined under subsection (3) of this section.
- 13   (6) Medicaid managed care organizations shall pay the supplemental payments to  
14           qualifying hospitals within five (5) business days of receiving the supplemental  
15           capitation payment from the department.
- 16   (7) A qualifying hospital shall pay its quarterly assessment no later than fifteen (15)  
17           days from the date the qualifying hospital is notified of the assessment from the  
18           department. A non-state government-owned hospital may make payment of its  
19           assessment through an intergovernmental transfer. The department may delay or  
20           withhold a portion of the supplemental payment if a hospital is delinquent in its  
21           payment of a quarterly assessment.
- 22   (8) The department shall complete the actions required under subsection (3) of this  
23           section expeditiously and within the same quarter as all required information is  
24           received.
- 25   (9) Qualifying hospitals may notify the department of errors in the data used to make  
26           a quarterly supplemental payment by providing documentation within thirty (30)  
27           days of receipt of a quarterly supplemental payment from a Medicaid managed

1 care organization. If the department agrees that an error occurred in a qualifying  
2 hospital's quarterly supplemental payment, the department shall reconcile the  
3 payment error through an adjustment in the qualifying hospital's next quarterly  
4 supplemental payment.

5 (10) The programs in this section shall not be implemented if federal financial  
6 participation is not available or if the provider tax waiver is not approved. A  
7 qualifying hospital shall have no obligation to pay an assessment if any federal  
8 agency determines that federal financial participation is not available for any  
9 assessment. Any assessments received by the department that cannot be matched  
10 with federal funds shall be returned pro rata to the qualified hospitals that paid  
11 the assessments.

12 (11) The department may implement the hospital rate improvement programs only if  
13 Medicaid state plan amendments required for federal financial participation are  
14 approved by the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

15 (12) The assessment authorized under Sections 1 to 4 of this Act shall be restricted for  
16 use to accomplish the inpatient reimbursement increases established under this  
17 section. The Commonwealth shall not maintain or revert funds received under  
18 Sections 1 to 4 of this Act to the state general fund except that the department  
19 may receive two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars in state funds each  
20 program year to administer the programs. The department shall not establish  
21 Medicaid fee-for-service rate-setting methodology changes that result in rate  
22 reductions from policies in effect as of October 1, 2018, for acute care hospitals  
23 and July 1, 2019, for hospitals paid on a per diem basis.

24 (13) The department shall promulgate administrative regulations to implement the  
25 provisions of Sections 1 to 4 of this Act.

26 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO  
27 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 (1) There is hereby established in the State Treasury the hospital Medicaid  
2 assessment fund for the purpose of holding assessments collected under Section 2  
3 of this Act and funds transferred pursuant to Section 4 of this Act.
- 4 (2) All assessments collected shall be deposited into the fund and transferred to the  
5 department on a quarterly basis to be distributed only for the purpose of  
6 administering the provisions of Section 2 of this Act.
- 7 (3) Any fund amounts remaining in the fund after the cessation of the collection of  
8 the assessment under Section 2 of this Act shall be refunded to qualifying  
9 hospitals on a pro rata basis based upon the assessments paid by each qualifying  
10 hospital for the program year that ended immediately before the cessation of the  
11 collection of the assessment.
- 12 (4) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, fund amounts not expended at the close of a fiscal  
13 year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the next fiscal year and  
14 shall be used to reduce the assessments in the subsequent program year.
- 15 (5) Any interest earnings of the fund shall become a part of the fund and shall not  
16 lapse.
- 17 (6) Moneys deposited into the fund are hereby appropriated for the purposes set forth  
18 in this section and shall not be appropriated or transferred by the General  
19 Assembly for any other purpose.

20 ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 205 IS CREATED TO  
21 READ AS FOLLOWS:

22 Beginning in state fiscal year 2020 and continuing thereafter, the qualifying hospital  
23 disproportionate share percentage of the excess disproportionate share taxes shall be  
24 transferred to the hospital Medicaid assessment fund and used for the state matching  
25 dollars for the payments made under Section 2 of this Act. The university hospital  
26 disproportionate share percentage of the excess disproportionate share taxes shall be  
27 used for the state matching dollars for supplemental payments to university hospitals

1 *or used for state mental hospital reimbursement purposes, as applicable.*